



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1010 DEFENSE PENIAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

OCT 4 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (ACQUISITION &
TECHNOLOGY)
UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (POLICY)
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES

SUBJECT: DoD Export License Review Process

Exports of defense-related goods and technology can have a significant impact on our nation's security. We need to ensure that such exports support our security interests by protecting important military advantages and by supporting the military capabilities of our allies and friends that serve our mutual defense interests. By giving reviews of export cases the high priority they warrant, I believe that we can build a higher quality and more timely review process that meets the needs of the competitive global defense marketplace.

At my request, Principal Deputy Under Secretary (A&T) Dave Oliver and Principal Deputy Under Secretary (Policy) Jim Bodner have co-chaired a DoD-wide group that has been examining additional ways to improve DoD's review process for both munitions and dual-use export license applications. One of the issues that this group addressed was an effort led by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency Technology Security Directorate to reduce the DoD backlog of munitions license applications this past spring. I wish to express my appreciation for the outstanding work of many of your organizations in successfully achieving our goals.

I am convinced, however, that there are opportunities to bring additional discipline to our process that will reduce review times permitting legitimate defense cooperation to be responsive to the global marketplace without compromising our security interests. Thus, I am directing the implementation of DoD export license review timelines and, escalation procedures as outlined in the attached charts. These procedures will be effective October 4, 1999. Mr. Dave Tarbell, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Technology Security Policy, will be responsible for ensuring that mechanisms are in place to implement these new procedures. He will arrange more detailed discussions with license reviewing organizations so that you can make the necessary adjustments to comply with the new procedures. For example, all cases already in process as of October 4 will be considered new cases on that date for purposes of the new timelines.

I have reviewed the comments from many of your organizations on the planned review mechanisms. Our implementation approach will address many of your concerns and take into account many of your thoughtful suggestions. In any case, Mr. Tarbell and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency Technology Security Directorate will conduct a review of the new procedures following a 90-day period to assess the impact of the new procedures and consider any adjustments that may be necessary. Your participation in that review will be important.

Thank you for your cooperation in this important endeavor. Please designate a point of contact in your organization to coordinate the details of this initiative to Mr. Tarbell's office at 703-604-5215.

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John J. Hamre